



PUBLIC NOTICE

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DA 04-3988
December 20, 2004

**WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU EXTENDS REPLY COMMENT
DEADLINE FOR PETITION FOR FORBEARANCE FILED BY BELL SOUTH
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. REGARDING INCUMBENT LEC PROVISION OF
BROADBAND**

WC DOCKET NO. 04-405

Revised Reply Comment Deadline: January 28, 2005

On November 3, 2004, the Wireline Competition Bureau issued a public notice indicating that initial comments regarding BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s (BellSouth) petition for forbearance from certain Title II and *Computer Inquiry* requirements (WC Docket No. 04-405) would be due on or before December 20, 2004, and that reply comments would be due on or before January 19, 2005.¹ On December 17, 2004, BellSouth requested that we extend the deadline for filing reply comments in this docket to January 28, 2005.² BellSouth indicates that it expects numerous parties to file comments in this proceeding and requests additional time, in light of the intervening holidays, to ensure that BellSouth can fully respond to the arguments of commenting parties.³

It is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time are not routinely granted.⁴ In this case, however, the Bureau finds that BellSouth has shown good cause for an extension of the deadline for filing reply comments in this proceeding. In light of the complexity of the issues involved, we grant a limited extension so that parties may file reply comments in this docket on or before **January 28, 2005**.

For further information regarding this proceeding, contact Brad Koerner, brad.koerner@fcc.gov, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-0866.

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¹ See Public Notice, "Comments Invited on Petition for Forbearance Filed by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. Regarding Incumbent LEC Provision of Broadband," DA 04-3507 (rel. Nov. 3, 2004).

² See Letter from L. Barbee Ponder IV, BellSouth, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 04-405 (filed Dec. 17, 2004). We treat BellSouth's *Ex Parte* presentation as a motion for extension of time filed under rule 1.46(b). 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(b).

³ See *id.*

⁴ 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(a).